

Michael F. Easley  
Governor



State of North Carolina  
Office of the Governor

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**GOV. EASLEY ANNOUNCES 60 NEW JOBS FOR MECKLENBURG COUNTY**

*Assisted by the One N.C. Fund Grant, The Contractor Yard establishes corporate headquarters in Charlotte*

**RALEIGH** – Gov. Mike Easley announced today that The Contractor Yard, a direct supplier of building materials to professional contractors, will establish their corporate headquarters in Charlotte creating 60 jobs over the next four years and investing more than \$2.5 million. The announcement is made possible in part by a \$50,000 grant from the One North Carolina Fund.

“The Contractor Yard’s decision to locate its corporate headquarters in North Carolina is proof that we are making the right investments in the right places at the right time,” Easley said. “Our investments in workforce development, education and infrastructure allow our state to remain highly competitive in the global economy.”

The One North Carolina Fund helps the state recruit and expand quality jobs by providing financial assistance to businesses or industries deemed by the Governor to be vital to a healthy and growing state economy. Through the use of this fund, nearly 12,000 jobs and more than \$1 billion in investment have been created since 2001.

The Contractor Yard, an independent subsidiary of The Strober Organization, recently acquired Moore’s Lumber & Building Supplies and now operates in 45 locations across the nation. With more than 1,700 employees, the company expects revenues in 2004 to exceed \$700 million. The Contractor Yard will begin hiring immediately. The new positions will be in the administrative and merchandising departments with salaries very competitive for the area. The company also plans to lease 10,000 square-feet of office space at 900 West Trade Street in downtown Charlotte.

“Given the geographic markets we serve and the excellent business climate in North Carolina, establishing a corporate headquarters here makes a great deal of sense,” said Ben Phillips, CEO of The Contractor Yard. “Our company looks forward to a long-term partnership with the State of North Carolina.”

The Charlotte Chamber of Commerce, N.C. Department of Commerce, the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County also played a key role in this announcement.

For more information about the company or possible job opportunities contact Steven Diniaco, The Contractor Yard Vice President of Finance & Administration, at 704/330-2313.

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